

**General Assembly**

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Item 128 of the provisional agenda*

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011

**Request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute
for Disarmament Research resulting from the
recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute
on the work programme of the Institute for 2010-2011**

Note by the Secretary-General

Summary

In part IV, paragraph 2, of its resolution 60/248, the General Assembly endorsed the proposal that the request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) be submitted for review and approval by the Assembly on a biennial basis in the context of its consideration of the proposed programme budget for the related biennium.

In this context, and in accordance with the provisions of the statute (see resolution 39/148 H, annex, article VIII, para. 3) and the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute, the Assembly is requested to approve a subvention in the amount of \$558,200 for UNIDIR from the regular budget of the United Nations for the biennium 2010-2011. The related provision is included under section 4, Disarmament, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011 (A/64/6 (Sect. 4) and Corr.1).

* A/64/150.

1. At its fifty-second session, the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, in its capacity as the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), approved, for submission to the General Assembly, the report of the Director of the Institute on its activities for the period from August 2008 to July 2009 and the proposed programme of work and estimated resource requirements for 2009 and 2010 (see A/64/261). The present note is submitted to the Assembly in the context of its consideration of a subvention to UNIDIR for 2010-2011 from the regular budget of the United Nations. Due to the timing of the preparation of the two reports, the financial information contained in the annexes to the present note is similar to that contained in the report of the Director of the Institute. Updated financial information on the Institute will be provided to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions at the time of its review of these reports.

2. In the above-mentioned report of the Director of UNIDIR, the Board of Trustees has recommended continuation of a subvention from the United Nations regular budget. Such a subvention is important for ensuring the independence of the Institute.

3. The proposed programme budget of the United Nations for the biennium 2010-2011, under section 4, Disarmament (A/64/6 (Sect. 4) and Corr.1), contains a provision of \$558,200, representing the United Nations subvention to UNIDIR for the biennium. This amount will be subject to subsequent recosting in accordance with the established procedures.

4. Under section IV of resolution 44/201 B, entitled "Subvention from the regular budget to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research", the Secretary-General is required to report annually to the General Assembly on the situation of the Institute. In this context, the financial situation of the Institute (details of which are provided in annexes I to III of the present note) may be summarized as follows:

(a) Funds available at the beginning of 2009 amounted to \$1,259,500. This figure includes an amount of \$308,700 required as an operating cash reserve;

(b) Total income for 2009 is estimated at \$2,940,500 from the following sources: voluntary contributions and public donations (\$2,574,700); interest income (\$40,000); inter-organizational contributions (\$18,000); and subvention from the United Nations regular budget (\$307,800). It is also estimated that, of the total voluntary contributions and public donations, approximately 80 per cent will be used for special projects and 20 per cent for other purposes, including administrative costs;

(c) Total estimated expenditure for 2009 is \$3,323,500, which includes a provision of \$143,600 for programme support costs. Requirements for 2010 are estimated at \$2,019,200, inclusive of \$83,100 for programme support costs;

(d) Available funds at the beginning of 2010 are estimated at \$876,500, inclusive of an amount of \$348,300 as an operating cash reserve.

5. It is recalled that the General Assembly, in its resolution 60/248, endorsed the proposal that the request for a subvention to the Institute be submitted for review and approval by the Assembly on a biennial basis in the context of its consideration of the proposed programme budget for the related biennium.

6. Accordingly, the General Assembly is requested to approve a subvention to UNIDIR of \$558,200 (before recosting) from the regular budget of the United Nations for the biennium 2010-2011, provision for which has been included under section 4, Disarmament, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium.

Annex I

Income and expenditure estimates for 2009 and 2010

(Thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Item</i>	<i>2009 (estimates)</i>	<i>2010 (estimates)</i>
A. Funds available at the beginning of the year	1 259.5 ^a	876.5 ^b
B. Income		
Voluntary contributions and public donations	2 574.7 ^c	1 228.5 ^d
Subvention from the United Nations regular budget	307.8	273.7 ^e
Other inter-organizational contributions	18.0 ^e	20.0 ^d
Interest income	40.0	20.0
Total income	2 940.5	1 542.2
C. Total funds available	4 200.0	2 418.7
D. Expenditure	3 323.5	2 019.2
E. Fund balance at end of year	876.5 ^b	399.5 ^f

^a Includes \$308,700 required as an operating cash reserve for 2008.^b Includes \$348,300 required as an operating cash reserve for 2009.^c See annex III for details of UNIDIR estimated income from voluntary sources for 2009.^d See annex III for details of UNIDIR estimated income from voluntary sources for 2010. The estimates for 2010 are conservative. Experience shows that they will be much higher but this cannot, of course, be guaranteed at the present stage.^e To be technically adjusted prior to the approval of the proposed programme budget for 2010-2011.^f Includes \$234,800 required as an operating cash reserve for 2010.

Annex II

Estimated resource requirements, 2009 and 2010

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Resource requirement	2009 (estimates) (1)	2010 ^a (estimates) (2)	Increase/ (decrease) (2-1)
A. Direct administrative costs			
Salaries and related staff costs	767.4	755.5	(11.9)
Temporary assistance for meetings	43.2	4.9	(38.3)
Consultants' fees and travel	55.9	38.2	(17.7)
Ad hoc expert groups	560.3	58.8	(501.5)
Personal service contract	1 416.0	872.6	(543.4)
Official travel of staff	136.0	59.7	(76.3)
Other external printing	4.9	2.0	(2.9)
Training	4.6	3.7	(0.9)
Contractual services	65.0	80.1	15.1
Hospitality	23.7	8.9	(14.8)
Premises: rental and maintenance	15.6	5.9	(9.7)
Rental of office equipment	11.2	4.0	(7.2)
Rental of conference service equipment	8.4	3.6	(4.8)
UNDP Country Office Costs	0.7	1.3	0.6
Bank charges	1.0	1.0	—
Communication	23.4	17.2	(6.2)
Acquisition of office equipment	16.6	2.6	(14.0)
Data storage and archival supplies	8.0	—	(8.0)
Stationery and office supplies	2.4	1.3	(1.1)
Paper for internal reproduction	12.0	12.0	—
Subscriptions and standing order	1.2	1.2	—
Library books and supplies	2.4	1.6	(0.8)
Total A	3 179.9	1 936.1	(1 243.8)
B. Programme support costs			
5 per cent of (total A, less United Nations subvention)	143.6	83.1	(60.5)
Total expenditure (A + B)	3 323.5	2 019.2	(1 304.3)
C. Operating cash reserve			
Operating cash reserve (15 per cent of expenditure on contributions other than from the European Union, less United Nations subvention, and 5 per cent on contributions from the European Union)	348.3	234.8	(113.5)
Total (A + B + C)	3 671.8	2 254.0	(1 417.8)

^a These figures may be increased upon the confirmation of current funding proposals.

Annex III

Income from voluntary sources, 2009 and 2010

(United States dollars)

<i>Donor</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>2010^a</i>
A. Governmental contributions		
Australia	115 020	—
Canada	35 560	12 800
China	20 000	20 000
Finland	55 788	55 000
France	323 895	324 000
Holy See	10 000	10 000
Israel	10 000	10 000
Luxembourg	9 843	10 000
Mexico	5 000	5 000
Netherlands	336 152	370 711
Norway	180 658	115 000
Republic of Korea	30 000	30 000
Russian Federation	100 000	100 000
Turkey	5 000	5 000
Sweden	44 269	—
Switzerland	104 542	60 000
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	39 783	40 000
Subtotal A	1 425 910	1 167 511
B. Public donations		
European Commission	1 056 746	36 951
Marie Curie Foundation	67 987	—
Secure World Foundation	15 000	15 000
Simons Foundation	9 046	9 000
Subtotal B	1 148 779	60 951
Total voluntary contributions (A + B)	2 574 689	1 228 462
C. Inter-organizational contributions		
Office for Disarmament Affairs	18 000	20 000
Subtotal C	18 000	20 000
Total (A + B + C)	2 592 689	1 248 462

^a These figures will be increased upon the confirmation of current funding proposals.